

THE TRISAGION

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHURCH

Christ in You, the Hope of Glory!

DESPITE THE JULY lull in liturgical activities, the month has sped by for me, much as did June. Now we approach the feasts of Transfiguration and Dormition: the former revealing the Divinity of Christ to His intimate disciples, and the latter commemorating the translation from death to life of the Most Holy Theotokos.

Thematically, the two feasts are connected. The Transfiguration reveals Christ's glory that He had from the beginning with the Father, as far as his disciples were able to bear it. The Dormition focuses on the glory that awaits us and is personified in the Dormition of the Mother of God.

Christ prayed at the Last Supper (John 17:21-24):

That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me.

And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one:

I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me.

Father, I will that they also, whom thou hast given me, be with me where I am; that they may behold my glory, which thou hast given me: for thou lovedst me before the foundation of the world.

God has manifested His presence in our midst at



the Transfiguration of His Son, as the God-Man Jesus Christ, and calls us to share in that same glory at our departure from this world. In the span of nine short days, we literally go from “glory unto glory” in festal celebration: The same glory revealed on Mount Tabor prefigures the glory that shall be ours in Christ's kingdom when we fall asleep in the Lord.

In brief, we look forward to a glorious revelation

(continued, see CHRIST IN YOU, page 3)

HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHURCH
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Schedules

	Coffee Hour	Greeters	Tellers	Servers**
August 3	J. Fryncko and M. & G. Anthony*	L. Radomsky and M. Radomsky	M. Stevens and G. Cattell	Team A
August 10	D. Patel and K. Oleynik*	M. Thompson and M. Fedkin	S. Stevens and H. Torbic	Team B
August 17	C. Strauss and E. Files	M. Leathers and D. Swisher	B. Haupt and M. Fedkin	Team A
August 24	Russian Ladies	B. Roberts and E. Miranda	G. Cattell and R. Patel	Team B
August 31	K. Cattell and D. Van Duin	L. Radomsky and M. Radomsky	H. Torbic and M. Stevens	Team A
September 7	POTLUCK—Main: A-M; Sides: N-Z	M. Thompson and M. Fedkin	M. Fedkin and G. Cattell	Team B

* Denotes Fast

**Team A: A. Miranda, N. Pelikan, S. Oleynik, D. Stickle, J. Torbic, and J. Swisher. Captains: D. Torbic, Ja. Stickle, and K. Kucheryavyi
Team B: J. Cadman, C. Legaspi, N. McFarland, B. Oleynik, S. Patel, and L. Torbic.

■ CHAPEL OF THE HOLY SPIRIT HEADLINES

Chapel Secures 0% Rate for First Five Years; Payments Fixed at \$500

Subsequent to the parish's unanimous approval on June 22 to authorize the Parish Council to negotiate terms for a \$160,000 loan from the Archdiocese to construct the Chapel of the Holy Spirit, a meeting was held in Bedford on July 18 to finalize the terms.

Attending were His Grace Bishop Melchisedek, Chancellor Fr. Bill Evansky and other Archdiocesan officials, Holy Trinity and Chapel clergy Fr. John and Dn. David, and members of the Parish Council. At the meeting, the following terms were set:

The Archdiocese agreed to loan the parish the full sum for 20 years. The rate was set at zero percent (0%) interest for the first five years; a maximum of 2% for the second five; and at a flat rate of 4% during last ten. Monthly mortgage payments will be fixed at \$500 during the initial five years.

All objections originally voiced to the proposal that was to be voted upon May 18 have been resolved to the full satisfaction of the Parish Council.

Building Contract Signed; Construction to Begin in Sept.

In July, the Parish Council signed a contract with Fine Touch Builders to construct a new temple for the Chapel on Kern Street in Beavertown for \$198,130. The builder anticipates beginning in mid- to late September. The Chapel plans to use its sizable savings and additional stewardship to cover the difference of the loan amount and total cost of construction.

Youth Outreach to Kick Off with Mini Golf Outing this Month

Bimonthly activities to build character and friendship among the Chapel's youth are now being planned. The first activity will be a miniature golf and Italian ice outing on Sunday, August 10. Participants will depart from the Chapel at 2 p.m. All events will be free and open to all, including kids from Holy Trinity. Send Mka. Brenda Smith or Cam Mazeski your questions and future event ideas to info@holyspirit-oca.org.

Visit the Chapel at the Festival!

Make plans to attend the Selinsgrove Market Street Festival this September 27. The annual event features over 100 art and food vendors (including the Chapel's famous hospitality booth), entertainment, and more.

For the Record

CATHECUMEN

- **Faye Oberheim** was enrolled as a catechumen at the Chapel of the Holy Spirit on July 20. Many years! (This marks the first catechumen there since the original ten members were received from Lutheranism in 2009. Pray the Lord for many, many more.)

BAPTISM

- **Michael Aidan Troyan**, son of Brian and Nina Troyan, was baptized at Holy Trinity on July 26, sponsored by Matthew and Jill Finke. Many years!

BIRTH

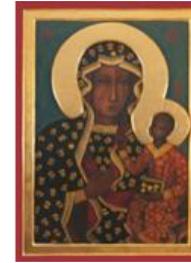
- **Alexei Newton Cattell**, son of Joshua and Sarah Cattell, grandson of Gary and Karen Cattell, born July 22, measuring 7 lbs. 5 oz. Many years!

WELCOMES

- **Rachel Leach**, joined us in May from Philadelphia.
- **Michael and Abby Legaspi**, with their children **Cato, Ana, and Olivia**, joined us in July from Andover, Massachusetts. (Their oldest son, **Josiah**, is a freshman at Haverford College.)
- **Jon and Yanna Nachtigall**, with their children **Caroline, Alexandra, Dean, and Athan**, joined us in July from Westampton, New Jersey.

Letter to the Editor

Thanks for your help! Our time with the Black Madonna icon came this week and it was heavenly! I was not expecting the icon to have quite the effect on our congregation that it did—although based on your description of its visit to your parish, I was expecting good things. When the icon was being taken out to Fr. Peter West's car, and our choir was serenading it to "O Pure Virgin" I was so struck by the beauty of it all that I didn't know whether I was in heaven or earth (to coin a phrase).



— NANCY DESMOND
St. Katherine Church, Kirkland, WA

SEND US YOUR THOUGHTS: news@holyltrinity-oca.org.

[The Church is] always affectionate toward all her children accepts and calls everyone to salvation, the devout and the sinners, the healthy and the sick, the strong and the weak. Not only does she accept everyone but also gives everyone the opportunity at a moment of time to repent and be saved. The Church, regardless of the passing of so many centuries, condemns and reproaches sin and does not change her stance against it, as against something allegedly natural but only slightly different...

It is necessary, at all costs, [therefore to] struggle for the preservation of the traditional Orthodox institution of family with the cultivation of marital fidelity, the treating of one spouse by the other as a person created in the image and likeness of God, the togetherness and the unity, the following of the same path by showing obedience preferably to the same spiritual father, and mostly the constant self-denial and sacrifice, without which sanctification and spiritual progress of the family will be unattainable... [By] lifting the cross of life may you offer witness of the truth of Christ, from Whom every family in heaven and on earth is named (cf. *Eph. 3:15-16*). ■

■ NEWS AND NOTES

You are Needed for a 2014 OCMC Mission

ST. AUGUSTINE, FLORIDA [*via ocmc.org*] — The Orthodox Christian Mission Center (OCMC) here is seeking 10 volunteers to help fill teams that will serve in Europe and Africa later this year. The Albania team (departs Sept. 17) will lead spiritual retreats for clergy wives, women lay leaders and women's groups; the Tanzania team (departs Oct. 27) will offer theological training for the clergy of the Metropolis of Mwanza; and the Uganda team (also departs Oct. 27) will offer stewardship workshops to indigenous clergy and laity. Contact teams@ocmc.org or (877)-463-6784 to apply.

Authors, Theologians to Explore the Relevancy of Books at Annual Seminary Open House

YONKERS, NEW YORK [*via svots.edu*] — St. Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary here has chosen as its theme for Orthodox Education Day 2014, "Do Books Still Matter? A Celebration of Orthodox Christian Publications." This year's open house will be held Saturday, October 4, and will pay tribute to the importance of Orthodox Christian authors, illustrators, and publishing houses throughout the world. The event will also celebrate the 50th anniversary of SVS Press. The dean of the seminary, The Very Rev. Dr. John Behr, will be the keynote speaker. The day will begin with the celebration of Divine Liturgy in the seminary chapel. A schedule of the day's events will be forthcoming on svots.edu.

Direct a Portion of Your Online Purchases to Holy Trinity

At no cost to you, Amazon will donate a percentage (0.5%) of every purchase you make to Holy Trinity or another charitable organization of your choice. To get started or for information, visit smile.amazon.com or holyltrinity-oca.org/give.

■ ORTHODOX SPIRITUALITY

On Marriage and Family

by Patriarch Bartholomew I



In his recent address to American clergy and laity, the Ecumenical Patriarch championed the Church's teaching on marriage.

Human life is certainly a serious matter, a spiritual battle and a course toward a goal that is heaven. Marriage is the most critical and most important vehicle of this course; the marriage in Christ and the marital bond, the undefiled marriage (*Heb. 13:4*), the profound sacrament (*Eph. 5:32*). It has also been shown that the success or failure, the progress or destruction in spiritual life begins with the marriage.

We all realize that in the society we live, the God-sanctified institution of the family suffers serious blows from the prevalent climate of contemporary blissfulness, which does not favor the total offering of one spouse to the other and of both to the children, but nurtures fleeting, personal relationships aiming at the release from the duties of the communion of the marriage and the egotistical self-gratification of man, rendering man essentially empty, miserable and isolated, deprived of the blessing of God.

The institution of Marriage and the Orthodox Christian family is foremost a course of love, secondly a course of common spirit and common exercise, thirdly a course of creativity, common creativity and continuation of life, and, fourthly a common course toward heaven, toward the heavenly kingdom. It is a calling of God, it is a joining of diversity that leads to perfection, and, therefore, the spouses become also joint heirs of the grace of life (*1 Peter 3:7*).

Taking into account the Patristic saying according to which nothing holds together life as the love between man and woman, the living together of people of the same sex as couples is not an accepted practice within the bosom of our Orthodox Church, which preserves undefiled the wholesomeness of the evangelical truth. It is irreconcilable with the commandments of God and contrary to the spirit of the Gospel. As deacons of the Church and her salvific work, we ought to keep always a clear and unambiguous stance on this subject that resurfaces constantly, because only where there is husband and wife and children and concord and people connected by the bonds of virtue there, in their midst, is Christ, says St. John Chrysostom (*On Genesis*, Homily 6).

Words of Wisdom On Marriage

The Christian idea of marriage is based on Christ's words that a man and wife are to be regarded as a single organism—for that is what the words 'one flesh' would be in modern English. And the Christians believe that when He said this He was not expressing a sentiment but stating a fact—just as one is stating a fact when one says that a lock and its key are one mechanism, or that a violin and a bow are one musical instrument.

The inventor of the human machine was telling us that its two halves, the male and the female, were made to be combined together in pairs, not simply on the sexual level, but totally combined.

The monstrosity of sexual intercourse outside marriage is that those who indulge in it are trying to isolate one kind of union (the sexual) from all the other kinds of union, which were intended to go along with it and make up the total union.

—C.S. Lewis

The Christian attitude does not mean that there is anything wrong about sexual pleasure, any more than about the pleasure of eating. It means that you must not isolate that pleasure and try to get it by itself, any more than you ought to try to get the pleasures of taste without swallowing and digesting, by chewing things and spitting them out again.

SOURCE: *Mere Christianity*, Chapter 6, Book III (Christian Behavior).

Support Our Back to School Drive

Each year, Holy Trinity provides school supplies for underprivileged children through *Matthew 25*. Contributions will be accepted through August 24 (monetary donations are also appreciated since we purchase all outstanding items for the children we sponsor). Those interested in giving their time as well are invited to attend an organizational meeting on August 4 at 5:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall.

Monthly Potlucks Begin in Sept.

The Coffee Hour ministry will pilot monthly potlucks on each first Sunday beginning September 7. For the first month, those with last names beginning in A-M will provide the main course; those starting with N-Z will bring a side or dessert (drinks will be provided by the parish.) If the effort proves to be a success, the ministry will consider extending the potlucks into 2015. See Jean Miranda with questions.

Adult Group to Study Hebrews

Mark your calendars: Fr. John will lead parishioners in an examination of St. Paul's exhortative epistle using the book, *The Epistle to the Hebrews, High Priest in Heaven* by Lawrence R. Farley next month. Meant to feed both the heart and the mind, the study will be both devotional and exegetical, drawing from several patristic sources. Moving to alternating Thursdays this year, the Adult Study Group will begin at 7 p.m. on September 18. Look for more details in our next issue.

New Series for Inquirers to Debut

Begin to get the word out among your friends, Holy Trinity will debut a four-part series entitled *The Jesus You Never Knew*. Geared toward Christians unfamiliar with the early Church and those who may have rejected or not considered Christ because of an incomplete understanding, the course will examine the history of salvation, early Christian doctrine and worship, and conclude by answering the question "What must I do to be saved?" The weekly class begins Wednesday, October 15 at 7 p.m.



A Great Start to a New Ministry for Women, More to Come!

More than thirty ladies attended the Ladies' Summer Picnic on July 18. There was an amazing spread of BBQ chicken, pulled pork, and delicious sides and desserts, but most of all, great fellowship. On that note, Mka. Linda will lead a book study on the Grand Duchess Elizabeth of Russia beginning on Tuesday, September 9 and continuing bi-weekly through November at the Rectory from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Look for more details in next month's issue and in the weekly bulletin. ■

■ FROM THE RECTOR'S DESK Christ in You *(from page 1)*

of what God has prepared for those who love him, from before the foundation of the world. As St. Paul writes (Colossians 1:26-28):

That is, the mystery which has been hidden from the past ages and generations, but has now been manifested to His saints, to whom God willed to make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. We proclaim Him, admonishing every man and teaching every man with all wisdom, so that we may present every man complete in Christ.

In other words, Christ's glory is our hope. It is His by nature but it becomes ours by His grace. That is what we celebrate during the first half of August.

— Fr. John ■

Holy Trinity Calendar

All events take place at 119 South Sparks Street in State College unless where noted.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
August 3 Matins, 9am Divine Liturgy, 10am	4 Matthew 25 Back-to-School Drive Planning Meeting, 5:30pm	5 Clergy Staff Meeting, 11:45am Great Vespers/Litiya/Blessing of Fruit, 7pm	6 TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD Divine Liturgy, 8am (Hours, 7:40am) Vespers/Conf. 5:30pm High School Rafting Trip Departs, 6:30pm	7 Raising Orthodox Christian Kids (ROCK): "Thursdays in the Park," 10am @ <i>Sunset Park, State College</i> High School Rafting Trip Returns, ~9pm	8 Great Vespers, 7pm	9 St. Herman of Alaska Divine Liturgy, 9am (Hours, 8:40am) Great Vespers, 6pm Confessions
10 Matins, 9am Divine Liturgy, 10am	11	12 Homeless Ministry, 4pm @ <i>Centre House, 217 E. Nittany Ave.</i>	13 St. Tikhon of Zadonsk Vespers, 5:30pm Confessions Parish Council Meeting, 7pm	14 Raising Orthodox Christian Kids (ROCK): "Thursdays in the Park," 10am @ <i>Spring Creek Park, Houserville</i> Great Vespers/Litiya/Blessing of Flowers, 7pm	15 DORMITION OF THE THEOTOKOS Divine Liturgy, 8am (Hours, 7:40am)	16 Men's Fellowship Breakfast, 9am Great Vespers, 6pm Confessions
17 Matins, 9am Divine Liturgy, 10am Archdiocesan Family Day, 3pm-8pm @ <i>Chancery (8641 Peters Rd., Cranberry Township, PA)</i>	18	19 Clergy Staff Meeting, 11:45am	20 Vespers, 5:30pm Confessions	21 Raising Orthodox Christian Kids (ROCK): "Thursdays in the Park," 10am @ <i>Holmes-Foster Park, State College</i>	22	23 Great Vespers, 6pm Confessions
24 Divine Liturgy, 10am (Hours, 9:40am) Sunday School Student Registration, 11:45am-1pm @ <i>Parish Hall</i>	25	26 Penn State OCF at Involvement Fair, all day @ <i>HUB-Robeson Center</i>	27 Vespers, 5:30pm Confessions	28 ROCK "Thursdays in the Park," 10am @ <i>Sunset Park</i> Penn State OCF Welcome Back Dinner, 6pm @ <i>122 Pasquerilla Spiritual Ctr.</i> Great Vespers, 7pm	29 Beheading of St. John the Baptist Divine Liturgy, 8am (Hours, 7:40am)	30 Great Vespers, 6pm Confessions
31 Matins, 9am Divine Liturgy, 10am Sunday School Student Registration, 11:45am-1pm @ <i>Parish Hall</i> Sunday School Teacher Meeting, 12:15pm @ <i>Nave</i>	September 1 Penn State Orthodox Christian Fellowship (OCF) Labor Day BBQ and Molieben, 5pm @ <i>Spring Creek Park, Houserville (Rides depart from HUB at 4:30pm.)</i>	2 Clergy Staff Meeting, 11:45am	3 Vespers, 5:30pm Confessions	4 Penn State OCF: Dinner and Discussion, 6pm @ <i>122 Pasquerilla Spiritual Center</i>	5	6 Vespers, 6pm (No Confessions)
7 Matins/Sunday School, 9am Divine Liturgy, 10am Molieben for the Beginning of Church School, 11:45am Parish Potluck, 12pm (surnames A-M, bring entrees; N-Z, sides/dessert) Great Vespers/Litiya, 7pm	8 NATIVITY OF THE THEOTOKOS Divine Liturgy, 8am (Hours, 7:40am)	9 Women's Book Study on Grand Duchess Elizabeth of Russia, 9am @ <i>562 Lanceshire Ln. (Rectory)</i> Homeless Ministry, 4pm @ <i>Centre House, 217 E. Nittany Ave.</i>	10 Vespers, 5:30pm Confessions Parish Council Meeting, 7pm	11 Penn State OCF: Dinner and Discussion, 6pm @ <i>122 Pasquerilla Spiritual Center</i>	12	13 Penn State OCF Retreat to St. George Church in Scranton, all day Great Vespers/Litiya for the Elevation, 6pm Confessions

Chapel Calendar

All events take place at 350 Old Orchard Drive in Beavertown unless where noted.

Saturday 2 Great Vespers, 6pm Confessions	Saturday 16 Vespers, 6pm (No Confessions)
Sunday 3 Hours, 9:40am Divine Liturgy, 10am	Sunday 17 Hours, 9:40am Divine Liturgy, 10am
Tuesday 5 Great Vespers/Litiya, 7pm @ <i>Holy Trinity</i>	Tuesday 12 Choir Rehearsal, 6:30pm @ <i>845 Center Ave. (Lyter Residence)</i>
Wednesday 6 TRANSFIGURATION Hours/Divine Liturgy, 7:40am @ <i>Holy Trinity</i>	Sunday 24 Hours, 9:40am Divine Liturgy, 10am
Sunday 10 Hours, 9:40am Divine Liturgy, 10am Youth Event: Mini Golf and Italian Ice, 2pm-5pm	Tuesday 26 Choir Rehearsal, 6:30pm @ <i>845 Center Ave. (Lyter Residence)</i>
Tuesday 12 Choir Rehearsal, 6:30pm @ <i>845 Center Ave. (Lyter Residence)</i>	Sunday 31 Hours, 9:40am Divine Liturgy, 10am
Thursday 14 Great Vespers/Litiya, 7pm @ <i>Holy Trinity</i>	Tuesday Sept. 2 Choir Rehearsal, 6:30pm @ <i>845 Center Ave. (Lyter Residence)</i>
Friday 15 DORMITION OF THE THEOTOKOS Hours/Divine Liturgy, 8:40am @ <i>Holy Trinity</i>	Saturday Sept. 6 Great Vespers, 6pm Confessions

August 2014